

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

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R 190601Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 1536
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS KUWAIT 4968

STATE FOR EB/OCA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BMEP, ECON, EGEN: KU

SUBJ: PROPOSED AMERICAN APPAREL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
(IOGA) TO MIDDLE EAST.

REF: A) STATE 242260 B) KUWAIT 4239 C) KUWAIT 1798

1. IN KUWAIT GOOD MARKET EXISTS FOR WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHES AND TEXTILE FABRICS. SINCE APPROX. 60 PER CENT OF MEN WEAR DISHDASHAS, MARKET FOR MENS' CLOTHING MORE LIMITED, ALTHOUGH WEALTHY KUWAITIS HAVE EXPENSIVE TRAVEL WARDROBES. LITTLE OR NO MARKET EXISTS FOR TEXTILE MACHINERY, DEPENDING ON HOW SERIOUS GROUP OF CLOTH IMPORTERS ARE ABOUT PROPOSAL FOR TEXTILE FACTORY HERE. MUCH FARTHER DOWN ROAD IT CONCEIVABLE KUWAIT WILL PRODUCE SYNTHETIC FIBERS BUT CERTAINLY NO IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITIES EXIST IN THIS AREA.

2. IN SHORT WE PHYSICALLY CAPABLE HOSTING SUCH A MISSION AT
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EXPENSE OTHER ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL WORK. ULTIMATELY, DECISION

NEEDS BE MADE HOW IMPORTANT TRADE MISSIONS ARE COMPANRED WITH REPORTING OF MAJOR TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, OIL AND FINANCIAL REPORTING, COUNSELING OF NUMEROUS BUSINESS VISITORS, HANDLING OF OTHER COMMERCE PROGRAMS SUCH AS TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, WTDR REPORTS AND ADS REQUESTS, AND OTHER DUTIES NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL WORK.

3. FY 74/75 SCHEDULE OF MISSIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS ALREADY INCLUDES MID-AMERICA (OCTOBER), NAM, (NOVEMBER), TEXAS IOGA (DECEMBER), TIME INC. (JANUARY), OPIC GROUP (FEBRUARY), USCA PROCESSED FOODS TEAM (MARCH), TENTATIVE CATALOGUE SHOW (MARCH), AND BUSINESS EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS TRADE MISSION (MAY). WE ALSO UNSURE OF STATUS OF SPECIALIZED MATERIALS HANDLING, PORTABLE GENERATING, AND ROAD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT, SINCE OUR REFTELS CONCERNING SUBJECT MISSION UNANSWERED. WHILE IT TRUE EMBASSY WILL SOON HAVE THIRD COMMERCIAL OFFICER, ENOUGH WORK ALREADY EXISTS TO KEEP HIM BUSY WITHOUT PILING ON NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL PROMOTIONAL EVENTS.

4. POST STRONGLY BELIEVES WITH GREATLY INCREASED INTEREST IN AREA TOO MANY OFFICES PUSHING THEIR PROGRAMS WITHOUT REGARD TO OTHER DEMANDS BEING MADE ON OUR TIME AND RESOURCES. WE WILLING HOST AAMA EVENT BUT WOULD THEN HOPE OTHER OFFICES IN STATE OR COMMERCE WOULD UNDERSTAND WHY THEIR INTERESTS OR PROGRAMS MAY NOT BE GETTING ATTENTION THEY DESERVE.
STOLTZFUS

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